

Message Text

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47

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11

FRB-02 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 CIEP-02 SPC-03 STR-08

TRSE-00 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 L-03

NSC-10 PA-04 PRS-01 SS-20 USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-14 DRC-01

AGR-20 /210 W

----- 066749

R 231739Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5774

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EEC, UK

SUBJECT: LABOR PARTY EXTENDS BOYCOTT OF EC PARLIAMENT

1. AS EXPECTED, THE PARLIAMENTARY LABOR PARTY (PLP) HAS DECIDED, BY A VOTE OF 55 TO 34, TO EXTEND FOR ANOTHER YEAR ITS BOYCOTT OF THE EC PARLIAMENT. THE DECISION WAS TAKEN NOVEMBER 21 AT THE REGULAR WEEKLY MEETING OF THE PLP. THE ORIGINAL DECISION LAST YEAR HAD BEEN CARRIED BY 114 VOTES TO 55.

2. COMMENT: THE MOST SIGNIFICANT ASPECT OF THIS YEAR'S
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VOTE WAS THE LARGE NUMBER OF ABSTENTIONS. MORE AND

MORE LABOR MPS, INCLUDING SOME OF THE LESS DIEHARD ANTI-MARKETEERS, ARE COMING TO REGARD THE PARTY'S BOYCOTT AS AN IRRELEVANT, IF NOT EMBARRASSING, POSTURE. ON THE OTHER HAND THEY ARE UNWILLING TO PRECIPITATE A MAJOR ROW BY DEFYING THE EMPHATIC DEMAND OF THE PARTY'S ANNUAL CONFERENCE LAST OCTOBER THAT THE BOYCOTT BE MAINTAINED UNTIL SUCH TIME AS A NEW LABOR GOVERNMENT IS ABLE TO NEGOTIATE ACCEPTABLE NEW TERMS FOR UK MEMBERSHIP IN THE EC. TO ALL INTENTS AND PURPOSES, THEREFORE, THE QUESTION OF WHETHER OR NOT LABOR MPS SHOULD TAKE UP THEIR SEATS IN STRASBOURG HAS BEEN SHELVED UNTIL AFTER THE NEXT GENERAL ELECTION.

ANNENBERG

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 23 NOV 1973
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Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: mcintyresh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
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30 JUN 2005

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To: STATE
Type: TE
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